The History of Film

What we need to know
Important Films over the Last 100 Years

• 1902 - Le Voyage Dans La Lune (first film)
• 1903 - The Great Train Robbery (first Western)
• 1906 - The Story of the Kelly Gang (the world’s first feature-length film - 70 minutes)
• 1908 - Dr Jekyll & Mr Hyde (First horror film)
• 1911 - Dante's Inferno (first full length in the U.S.)
• 1911 - Little Nemo in Slumberland (first animated film)
• 1914 - The World, the Flesh, and the Devil (first feature-length color film)
• 1921 - Dream Street (first film to experiment with sound)
• 1922 - Nannok of the North (first feature film documentary or non-fictional narrative feature film)
• 1922 - The Power of Love (first 3-D feature film shown to a paying film audience)
• 1922 - Little Red Riding hood (Disney’s first animation)
Important Films over the Last 100 Years

- 1926 - Don Juan (first film to use sound along with the film)
- 1929 - Blackmail (first sound film)
- 1931 - Dracula and Frankenstein (first of Universal's series of classic horror films)
- 1937 - Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (first full length animated feature in colour)
- 1939 - Wizard of Oz
- 1945 - Blood on the Sun (first use of martial arts in film)
- 1949 – Pinky (first movie to deal with racism)
- 1953 – Melody (the first animated 3-D cartoon in Technicolor)
- 1954 – Godzilla
Important Films over the Last 100 Years

- 1957 - Island in the Sun (first interracial romance on film)
- 1958 - Vertigo (first Hitchcock film)
- 1962 - Dr. No (first Bond film)
- 1972 - The Godfather Series starts
- 1973 - Westworld (first movie to make use of "digitized images", a primitive term for what has evolved into CGI - computer-generated imagery)
- 1974 - Closed Mondays (first claymation)
- 1977 - Star Wars
Important Films over the Last 100 Years

• 1982 – Tron (first live action film with over 20 minutes of full 3D graphics and computer animation)
• 1982 - ET: The Extra-Terrestrial
• 1984 - Stop Making Sense (first all digital sound movie)
• 1986 - Aliens (first female action hero)
• 1988 - Who Framed Roger Rabbit (mixed special effects and real life)
• 1989 - Batman Returns (first film released in Dolby Stereo Digital sound)
• 1993 - Jurassic Park
• 1994 - Forrest Gump (used revolutionary digital photo tricks to insert the film's main character into archival historical footage with past Presidents and other situations)
• 1995 - Toy Story (first totally-digital or computer-generate feature-length animated film)

• 1995 - Tomorrow Never Dies (first film in cinematic history to have the largest product placement deal ever, covering its entire production budget of $110 million)
• 2000 - Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon (most academy awards by foreign film)
Important Films over the Last 100 Years

- 1999 - The Blair Witch Project (most profitable film in Hollywood cost 60,000 made 250 million)
- 1999 - The Matrix
- 2000 - X-Men (first major Marvel superhero comic ever adapted for the screen)
- 2001 - Lord of the Rings
- 2008 - The Dark Knight (highest gross movie ever 1 billion)
- 2009 - Avatar
Important Directors

• Georges Méliès – Le Voyage Dans La Lune (1902)
• Cecil Hepworth – Rescued by Rover (1905)
• Winsor McCay – Little Men in Slumberland (1911)
• William Wyler – Ben-Hur (1925)
• Alfred Hitchcock – Blackmail (1929)
• Victor Fleming – Gone With the Wind (1939)
• Michael Curtiz – Casablanca (1942)
• Ishiro Honda – Gojira (Godzilla) (1954)
• Cecil B. DeMille – The Ten Commandments (1956)
• Stanley Kubrick – Spartacus (1960)
• Robert Wise – The Sound of Music (1965)
• Stanley Kubrick – 2001: A Space Odyssey (1968)
• Dennis Hopper – Easy Rider (1969)
• Francis Ford Coppola – The Godfather (1972)
Important Directors

• Steven Spielberg – Jaws (1975)
• George Lucas - Star Wars (1977)
• Woody Allen – Annie Hall (1977)
• Ridley Scott - Alien (1979)
• James Cameron – Aliens (1986)
• Spike Lee - She's Gotta Have It (1986)
• Tim Burton - Batman (1989)
• Garry Marshall - Pretty Woman (1990)
• Jonathan Demme - The Silence of the Lambs (1991)
• Quentin Tarantino – Reservoir Dogs (1992)
• Wachowski Brothers - The Matrix Series (1999)
• M. Night Shyamalan - The Sixth Sense (1999)
• Peter Jackson - The Lord of the Rings (2001)
Important Actors in the last 100 years

- Max Aronson – First Western Star – 1903
- Charlie Chaplin - Kid Auto Races At Venice – 1914
- Gordon Griffith – Tarzan – 1918
- Alfred Hitchcock - Blackmail – 1929
- Shirley Temple - 'Baby Burlesks' - 1932
- Fay Wray – King Kong - 1933
- Clark Gable – Gone With the Wind – 1939
- James Cagney - Blood on the Sun – 1945
- James Dean – introduced to the world in a Pepsi-Cola commercial – 1950
- John Wayne - The Conqueror - 1956
- James Stewart – Vertigo – 1958
- Jack Nicholson – Little Shop of Horror - 1960
- Elizabeth Taylor - Cleopatra – 1963 – first to make $1 million
Important Actors in the last 100 years

• Julie Andrews – The Sound of Music - 1965
• Robert DeNiro – Greeting - 1968
• Dustin Hoffman - Midnight Cowboy -1969
• Harrison Ford – Star Wars - 1977
• Tom Cruise - Risky Business – 1983
• Tom Hanks – Splash - 1984
• Sigourney Weaver – Aliens - 1986
• Bruce Willis – Die Hard – 1988
• Julia Roberts – Pretty Woman – 1990
• Johnny Depp - Edward Scissorhands - 1990
• Winona Ryder - Edward Scissorhands - 1990
• Kevin Costner - Dances with Wolves - 1990
• Anthony Hopkins - The Silence of the Lambs -1991
• Jodie Foster - The Silence of the Lambs - 1991
• Denzel Washington - Training Day - 2001
• Halle Berry - Monster's Ball - 2001
• Matt Damon - The Bourne Identity - 2002
Important Film Companies

In Hollywood there are 6 major companies that run the industry: Time Warner, Viacom, Fox, Sony, NBC Universal, and Disney.
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Sound Technology

1900s  No sound
1920s  Orchestras in the theatre
1922  First experiments in the Prologues
1925  Sound was use on the side and coordinated with the movie
1926  Movietone was created to put sound into the film  - The Movietone sound system is a sound-on-film method of recording sound for motion pictures which guarantees synchronisation between the sound and the picture. It achieves this by recording the sound as a variable-density optical track on the same strip of film used to record the pictures

1975  The first feature film to be encoded with a Dolby Stereo optical soundtrack was Ken Russell's Lisztomania
1983  George Lucas' THX sound system technology was developed with the main goal of recreating film sound in film theaters exactly as the filmmakers had intended. The first movie to be shown in a THX-certified auditorium was Return of the Jedi
1993  James Cameron launched an innovative, state of the art, visual effects digital production studio, called Digital Domain, with partners IBM, character creator Stan Winston, and former ILM chief Scott Ross
1994  SDDS (Sony Dynamic Digital Sound), a digital sound-on-film format in which the digital information was optically printed in two continuous strips along both edges of the 35 mm
1999  Star Wars: Episode I - The Phantom Menace It was the first film with a Dolby Digital Surround EX soundtrack
Screen Technology

1900s    Reel to Reel, Black and white
1914     Kinemacolor
1922     The stereoscopic (3D) film was projected dual-strip in the red/green anaglyph format, making it both the earliest known film that utilized dual strip projection and the earliest known film in which anaglyph glasses were used
1925     Technicolor
1932     Zoom is used in film for the first time in Love Me Tonight
1939     Television was introduced to the world
1951     The first practical videotape recorder (VTR) was developed by the AMPEX Corporation
1967     Sony introduced a portable (but bulky), expensive, out-of-studio, black-and-white video camera system (or video tape recorder - VTR) called the PortaPak
1969     Sony introduced a new device -- the videocassette recorder (VCR) for home use
1969     IMAX 3-D was introduced with the 40-minute movie Wings of Courage, which cost $15 million to make. It was viewed through high-tech goggles with liquid crystal lenses
1970  The IMAX wide-screen format premiered in the Fuji Pavilion at the EXPO '70 in Osaka, Japan, with the 17-minute film Tiger Child

1973  Westworld was the first movie to make use of "digitized images", a primitive term for what has evolved into CGI (computer-generated imagery)

1974  The Steadicam, developed by Garrett Brown, was used for the first time in Rocky, and then fully exploited in Stanley Kubrick's The Shining (1980).

1976  JVC (in Japan) introduced the VHS (originally for vertical helical scan, and later Video Home System) 1/2 inch video format. The first VHS cassettes and players, which cost about $885 each, were released by JVC in October.

1978  Philips introduced the video laser disc (aka laserdisc and LD)

1979  Woody Allen's Manhattan was released -- his first film using a widescreen (2.35:1) Panavision process
Digital morphing (the seamless change from one character or image to another) of several animals was first introduced by ILM and debuted in the live-action film Willow in 1988.

A new generation of expensive computer-generated imagery (CGI) and graphics in the 1990s was heralded by the slinky, translucent water creature in James Cameron's big-budget film, The Abyss, released in 1989.

Another technological advancement, still currently being developed and tweaked, was the introduction of HDTV in 1996.

Slim DVDs (Digital Versatile Discs), the new generation of optical disc storage technology, began to be sold to consumers in 1997.

This was the debut year of the popular TiVo device, a personal digital video recorder (PVR or DVR), in 1999.

Director Pitof's dark 19th century crime fantasy Vidocq (2001) was the world's first-completed theatrical feature film shot entirely on Hi-Def digital video in 2001.

DVD rentals first topped those of VHS videotape rental revenues. Many of the studios stopped creating VHS versions of their films, and major retail stores stopped selling VHS versions or release in 2003.

The action sequel Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle (2003), the first Sony Pictures film, was also the first feature film to be released on Blu-Ray Disc in 2003.

The first YouTube video was uploaded in late April of 2005 -- entitled Me at the Zoo -- but the site didn't officially launch until November 2005.
Extras
FACTS

• Film companies began to move to the area later known as Hollywood. Los Angeles annexed Hollywood – 1910
• The Hollywood (originally HOLLYWOODLAND) sign was built for $21,000 – 1923
• The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS) was founded. Its president was Douglas Fairbanks – 1927
• This was the era which has been predominantly referred to as "The Golden Age of Hollywood" by film critics and historians, and considered the apex of film history – 1930
• The Screen Writers Guild was established – 1933
• First Drive-in movie in New Jersey – 1933
• Superhero Batman was the first DC Comics character – 1943
• Hollywood made one of its earliest attacks on racism with director Elia Kazan's melodrama Pinky. The film was noted for using a white actress (Jeanne Crain) to portray a light-skinned black woman who fell in love with a white man - 1949
• Disneyland opened its first theme park in a former orange grove in Anaheim, California at a cost of $17 million – 1955
• The film industry forbade racial epithets in films, but began to permit references to abortion, drugs, kidnapping, and prostitution under certain circumstances – 1956
FACTS

- The Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences' bylaws denied eligibility for Oscar nominations or consideration to anyone who admitted Communist Party membership or refused to testify before the House Committee on Un-American Activitie -1957

- 50s B-horror film director and impresario schlockmeister William Castle created the Percepto format for The Tingler. It consisted of installing small electric motors under the theatre seats and shocking viewers with a mini-jolt of buzzing vibration when Vincent Price appeared on screen or when blood-curdling screams were desired.- 1959

- Aroma-Rama, an experimental, short-lived scencing system developed by inventor Charles Weiss, was introduced to add over 50 scents to Carlo Lizzani's Italian documentary film about Red China titled Behind the Great Wall (narrated by Chet Huntley), by filtering 'Oriental' aromas into the auditorium through the air-conditioning system. The following year, a competing process was called Smell-O-Vision -1959
FACTS

• The Star Trek TV series had its debut on network television on September 8, 1966

• This was the year of one of the longest work stoppage in Hollywood history at the time -- the WGA (Writer's Guild of America) strike of US film and television writers against producers and networks that lasted 22 weeks (from March-August). The costly and crippling strike delayed the start of the fall television schedule.

• DVD sales revenues first exceeded VHS videotape sales revenues in 2001.
Important Film Companies

• Edison Motion Picture Studios - J. Searle Dawley - Frankenstein – 1910
• William Fox established The Fox Film Foundation - 1912
• Adolph Zukor founded an independent film studio named the Famous Players Film Corporation, with distribution arranged with a new organization named Paramount by 1914
• The Technicolor Motion Picture Corporation was founded in Boston, Massachusetts – 1915
• The first African-American owned studio, the pioneering The Lincoln Motion Picture Company, was founded – 1917
• The four Warner brothers, Jack, Albert, Harry and Samuel, opened their first West Coast studio – 1918
• Walt Disney teamed with Ub Iwerks to form Iwerks-Disney Commercial Artists (later known as Ub Iwerks), to create cartoon animations – 1919
• The future MGM studio was formed out of the merger of three US film production companies: Marcus Loew's Metro Pictures Corporation (1916), Goldwyn Pictures Corporation (1917) (known as Metro-Goldwyn), and the Louis B. Mayer Pictures Company (1918). MGM was destined to become the dominant studio of Hollywood's Golden Age during the 30s, under Louis B. Mayer's direction – 1924
Important Film Companies

• Walt Disney Productions was formed – 1929
• Warner Brothers introduce Bugs Bunny – 1938
• Tom & Jerry, created by Hanna & Barbera, were debuted by MGM in Puss Gets the Boot - 1940
• Director George Lucas, John Dykstra and producer Gary Kurtz created a facility called Industrial Light and Magic (ILM) in Lucas' own studio (Lucasfilm) in Marin County (Bay Area of Northern California) to help in the creation of special effects and miniature models for his first film in a trilogy -- Star Wars (1977)
• MGM made a comeback when it was split into a hotel empire and a movie company in 1980, and then acquired United Artists. UA was on the verge of bankruptcy due to the disastrous Heaven's Gate (1981)
• The soft-drink giant Coca Cola Company bought Columbia Pictures in a $750 million transaction. In 1982, a Columbia movie, Gandhi, won the Academy Award for Best Picture, and the Company secured its first Oscar. The newly-organized studio Tri-Star Pictures was formed by CBS Television, HBO (Home Box Office) and Columbia Pictures
Important Film Companies

• Tri-Star Pictures, formed in 1982 as a joint venture by CBS Television, HBO (Home Box Office) and Columbia Pictures, released its first film in May, The Natural
• Pixar Animation Studios, originally part of Lucasfilm (and Industrial Light and Magic (ILM)) specialized in developing animation created exclusively on computers. It was purchased by Apple Computer's Steve Jobs and made an independent company in 1986
• The Sony Corporation of America purchased Columbia Pictures Entertainment, Inc. and Tri-Star Pictures from Coca-Cola for $3.4 billion, naming itself Sony Pictures Entertainment. 1989
• Warner Communications merged with Time, Inc. to become the largest media company in the world 1989
• The Japanese electronics corporation Matsushita purchased MCA Universal for $6.1 billion.
• Pixar and Disney agreed to co-produce the first fully computer-generated feature film, Toy Story, released four years later. 1991
Important Film Companies

- Walt Disney Studio Entertainment bought Miramax Films for about $80 million - now considered a bargain-basement price
- Three of the most powerful, influential and successful individuals in modern Hollywood -- director/producer Steven Spielberg, the recently-departed Disney executive Jeffrey Katzenberg, and film and music industry mogul David Geffen -- formed the film studio DreamWorks SKG. (The SKG stood for the first letter of their last names.) It was the first new major studio in more than 50 years
- The Hollywood studio system was dominated by six global entertainment companies: Time Warner, Viacom, Fox, Sony, NBC Universal, and Disney. These six companies generally farmed out the production of their films to literally dozens of other independents and subsidiaries 2000
- The first major business deal of the 20th century was the America Online (AOL) purchase of Time Warner, Inc. for an estimated $182 billion 2000
- The much anticipated online movies-on-demand venture formed by five major Hollywood studios (Sony Pictures Entertainment, Universal Studios, Paramount Pictures, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer and Warner Bros.) was launched in 2002 with the establishment of MovieLink
Important Film Companies

• Viacom's Paramount Pictures acquired the 11-year-old DreamWorks studio (founded in 1994 by Steven Spielberg, Jeffrey Katzenberg, and David Geffen) for approximately $1.6 billion.

• The Walt Disney Co. bought longtime partner Pixar Animation Studios Inc. for $7.4 billion in stock, after a twelve year relationship in which Disney co-financed and distributed Pixar's animated films and split the profits (their previous deal would expire in June 2006 after Pixar delivered Cars (2006)).

• Signaling a future trend, both Apple and Amazon began offering full-length, on-demand movies on their websites.

• DreamWorks, which had been acquired by Viacom's Paramount in 2005, ended its troubled 2 1/2 year partnership with the studio in late 2008. A few months later in early 2009, DreamWorks realized its intentions to reinvent itself as an independent company. It signed a long-term, 30-picture distribution deal with the Disney Company for five-years. Future films would be released by Disney's Touchstone Pictures division.

• In late August of 2009, Walt Disney Co. announced that it had agreed to purchase comic book and action hero company Marvel Entertainment for about $4 billion